Amendments to the Specification

Under the Title, Above Paragraph [0001], Replace the Section Heading as follows:

~~Prior Art~~ BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

In Between Paragraphs [0001] and [0002], Replace the Section Heading as follows:

~~Advantages of the Invention~~ SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Replace Paragraph [0002] with the following Amended Paragraph:

[0002] In the case of an arrangement in accordance with the invention ~~with the characterizing features of Claim 1~~, the cap accommodates the securing means present on the wiper lever including the handle in such a way that this handle lies ready for actuation at least within the contour of the cap. In addition, unintentionally actuating the accommodated securing means via the handle that has been thusly secured is practically excluded as long as the wiper lever encompassing the wiper arm and the wiper blade is in the operating position.

In Between Paragraphs [00015] and [00016], Replace the Section Heading as follows:

~~Drawings~~ BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

In Between Paragraphs [00030] and [00031], Replace the Section Heading as follows:

~~Description of the Exemplary Embodiments~~ DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Replace Paragraph [00032] with the following Amended Paragraph:

[00032] For the articulated connection of the wiper blade 14 with the wiper arm 12, the adapter 40 is first connected in an articulated manner with the coupling element 20 in the locking direction (arrow 52, Figure 3). The finished assembly of the wiper blade 14 is thereby achieved practically. Coordination between the coupling element 20 and the adapter 40 is accomplished in this case so that the adapter can move in a pendulum

fashion by a certain extent around the longitudinal axis of the two articulated pins 38. Afterwards, the connection of the wiper blade to the coupling piece 18 of the wiper arm 12 takes place. To do so, the wiper blade with its adapter 40 is inserted between the two side walls 54 of the coupling piece 18 in such a way that the collar-like projections 62 of the bearing receptacles 50 reach into the recesses 60 that are adapted to the contour of these projections. At the same time, the locking teeth 68 with the starting bevels 69 embodied on them hit on the free ends of the side walls 54 of the coupling piece 18 so that they are deflected towards each other against a restoring force in the one direction of the double arrow 67 until they reach into the locking recesses 74 in the side walls 54 and spring back there into their initial positions under the effect of the restoring force. In this assembly position that is then achieved and depicted in Figures 2 and 4, the locking shoulders 70 cooperate in such a way with the counter locking shoulders 76 and the securing shoulders 72 with the counter securing shoulders 78 that and unintentional detachment of the wiper blade from the wiper arm is precluded. In order to facilitate the assembly of the wiper blade on the wiper arm, it can be expedient if the outside cheeks (facing away from each other) of the U-legs 42 of the adapter 40 are provided with several glide ribs (not shown), which assume the support between the side walls 54 of the coupling piece 18 and the U-legs 42 of the adapter 40. To detach the wiper blade from the wiper arm, the locking teeth 68 must be deflected towards one another far enough that the locking shoulders 70 and the securing shoulders 72 disengage from the counter locking shoulders 76 and the counter securing means 78. For greater ease of operation, the locking teeth 68 are each provided with a handle 80 (Figure 4, but omitted from Figures 2 and 3 in order to provide a better overview), which extends transverse to the longitudinal extension or in the movement direction (double arrow 67) of the extensions 66 (Figure 4). The locking teeth ~~66~~68 located on the extensions 66 therefore form with their locking shoulders 70 and securing shoulders 72 the securing means on the wiper-blade side, which are deflectable against a restoring force transverse to the longitudinal extension of the supporting element 22 in a plane parallel to its band width and which cooperate with counter locking means 74, 76, 78 embodied on the coupling piece 18. When the wiper blade 14 is connected to the wiper arm 12 in the manner described above and secured against unintentional detachment via the securing means, it can oscillate around the longitudinal axis of the articulated pins 38 in the direction of the double arrow 39 (Figure 1) because of the articulated connection between the adapter 40 and the coupling element 20.

Replace Paragraph [00033] with the following Amended Paragraph:

[00033] As Figure 1 also shows, the to-be-wiped surface of the window or the surface 17 of the windshield 15 of a motor vehicle is curved. Since the curvature of the window surface 17 shown in Figure 1 is supposed to represent the greatest curvature of the mostly spherically curved window surface, it is clearly evident that the curvature of the as yet unstressed wiper blade 14, whose two ends 14' are adjacent to the window surface, is greater than the maximum curvature of the window. Under an application force exerted by the wiper arm 12 acting in the direction of the arrow 11 (Figure 1), the wiper blade applies its rubber-elastic wiper strip 30, arranged on the concave curved band surface ~~21~~26 of the supporting element 22, over its entire length to the window surface 17. In doing so, tension builds up in the elastic supporting element 22 manufactured of metal and this tension is responsible for a proper application of the wiper strip over its entire length on the window as well as for a uniform distribution of the pressure force (arrow 11) caused by the application force. Moreover, the supporting element with its spring rails 24 is responsible for the required transverse stabilization of the rubber-elastic wiper strip 30. Because the window, which is spherically curved as a rule, does not represent a section of a spherical surface, the wiper blade must be able to constantly adapt vis-à-vis the wiper arm during its wiper operation to the respective position and the progression of the window surface. As a result, a smooth-running articulated connection is required between the wiper arm and the wiper blade that makes an oscillating movement (double arrow 39 in Figure 1) around the articulated pin axis possible.

On page 10, Replace Paragraph [00038] with the following Amended Paragraph:

[00038] However, if for certain reasons an all-around closed cap 120 that completely covers the handles 80 (as illustrated in Figures 8 through 10) is supposed to be used for a wiper lever whose handles must project into the contour of the cap 130 for certain reasons, e.g., due to a greater ease of operation, it has proven to be advantageous if the trough wall 121 of the cap 120 adjacent to the handles is provided on its inner side with a groove-like indentation 122, which extends from the penetration opening 123 to the trough edge ~~121~~124 so that the handle can project into this indentation (Figure 11).